(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) No separate reference recommending better pay scales for subordinate judges has been received from the Chief Justice of India. However, the matter relating to improvement in the salaries and emoluments and other conditions of service of the subordinate judiciary was discussed in the Joint Conference of Chief Justices and Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held on 31st August and 1st September, 1985 at New Delhi. The conference was of the view that the salaries and emoluments of the subordinate judiciary at all levels and their conditions of service need considerable improvement, including the residential accommodation, both during their term of office and also after their retirement, as also provision of staff cars and other means of transport. The subordinate judiciary is the subject matter of the State Governments and as such their appointments and improvement in the service conditions are primarily the concern of the State Governments. The proposals made by the Conference of Chief Justices and discussed in the Joint Conference have been forwarded to the State Governments alongwith the recommendations of the Joint Conference for taking appropriate action.

Three-Member Election Commission

633. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to constitute a three-member Election Commission for the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Suggestions, however, are being received from time to time from political parties and political analysts in the context of discussions on electoral reforms that the Election Commission should be a three-member body. Government have taken note of this suggestion and would finalise decisions on electoral reforms after holding consultations with the political parties.

Manufacture of small and cheap tractors

634. SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to manufacture small and low cost tractors that are most useful to the farmers; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when the same is likely to be accomplished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Full flexibility has been granted to existing manufacturers to diversify their product range to include tractors, power tillers and agriculture machinery of various sizes. In addition, excise exemption has been given to tractors upto 25 DBHP for benefit of small farmers.